



Implementation notes re TAQA revisions

Existing programmes at date of release of new Guidance

The new Guidance should not affect programmes that were already running at the date of release. Where Awarding Bodies have already approved arrangements for the delivery of programmes which have already started then there is no need for any alteration of delivery. It is not expected that delivery partners will have to change during their delivery of a programme.

Implementation for new programmes.

Plainly Awarding Bodies cannot amend their arrangements immediately and therefore some period of transition is appropriate: local documentation needs to be revised and made available, and quality assurance procedures need to be updated [inter alia]. We would encourage all Awarding Bodies to seek to achieve these changes as quickly as possible but appreciate that a time lag is inevitable. Our initial expectation was that all parties would be able to be compliant for new programmes starting from 1 March 2017, but following representations from Awarding Bodies we are content to extend this to 31 July 2017.

Summary of key changes to the TAQA qualifications guidance

[nb these are not exhaustive and are intended for guidance only]

- 1] Observations of assessor/QA candidates should be carried out in person
- 2] Awarding Bodies should accept each other's TAQA qualifications
- 3] Recommendations regarding total qualification time [TQT] have been added
- 4] Clarification that all valid evidence of trainee assessor performance must be assessed by qualified assessors rather than trainee assessors